

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Airfields: Rangsdorf, Neuruppin,
 Werneuchen, Strausberg

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1. Rangsdorf (Z82)

On 14 August 1948, thirty single-engine Rata fighters arrived at Rangsdorf. There was no other air activity. Temporary barracks are being erected near the repair shop (former Bücker plant) and recent supply deliveries have included 3,000 tons of lignite briquettes and large quantities of bricks and bags of cement. A new addition to the field is a mobile, forty watt radio station.

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2. Neuruppin (Z49)

On 19 August, a single PO-2 was seen towing a target over the Neuruppin airfield, but the field itself was not occupied by Soviet troops or aircraft. Two of the three remaining hangars can be used although they are badly damaged. Some of them held trucks and twelve GM trucks were parked in front of the third hangar. The field is not guarded and, according to Neuruppin residents, has not been used for several months except by occasional PO-2's.

3. Werneuchen (V06)

a. Between 13 and 18 August, Werneuchen airfield was occupied by a bomber regiment with 60-70 PE-3; a training squadron with 25-30 PO-2; and a fighter squadron with 18 low wing monoplane fighters. The latter fighters arrived on 14 August.

b. The PE-3's have been busily engaged in landing, take-off and bombing exercises, dropping their bombs at 800-1,000 meters altitude over the Prötzel Forest, east of Werneuchen. In addition to two medium bombs on each side of the airfoils, the PE-2's carry a mine approximately 1.60 meters in diameter under the fuselage. Additional bombs may be loaded in the normal racks, since it was observed that bomb doors were closed when taking off but open during return flights.

c. The fighters (they are not jets) train in six plane formations. Judging from the cyclic rate, each aircraft is equipped with several medium cannon and machine guns. Tow and ground targets have been utilized.

d. The trainers chiefly participate in gunnery and observation exercises.

c. A new subsidiary airfield has been established at the southeast exit of

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Hirschfelde (VO6), along the Hirschfelde-Strausberg highway and approximately five kilometers east of the Werneuchen field.

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~~Comment:~~ Werneuchen aircraft strength as last reported by the originating office: 11 June 1948 - five PO-2, two YAK-9, six two-engine aircraft. 21 July 1948 - sixty-three PE-2 on the field, plus about thirty in hangars.

4. Strausberg (V15)

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An air transport command arrived at Strausberg airfield between 13 and 15 August. During this period, security measures barred the field to all outsiders, including German workmen. According to local inhabitants, approximately 3,000 troops arrived in trucks and transport planes. There is little air activity at present.

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